

From: Rick Siltan
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/23/02 1:32pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to voice my position which, in brief, is that the proposed final judgment against Microsoft will not adequately prevent Microsoft from abusing its monopoly power.

There are many reasons such as those listed below, but ultimately it comes down to the fact that Microsoft is both the supplier of the monopoly operating system and a supplier of applications that use the operating system.

The Proposed Final Judgment needs to be amended because:

- * Hurts the not-for-profit competitors (Linux, Apache, etc.)
- * Fails to remove restrictive licensing terms to keep Open Source apps from running on Windows.
- * Requires that users of the APIs share their code with Microsoft. The APIs are needed to use the OS features but the OS vendor does not need to know how the applications work and so there is no need for Microsoft to have access to the code. This is especially true when they are also producing competing applications!!!
- * The proposal for Microsoft to donate equipment to schools must be a joke - it doesn't punish Microsoft at all and in fact takes market share away from the competitors that Microsoft has been hurting.
- * API & Middleware definitions are too narrow.
- * It does not prevent Microsoft from intentionally sabotaging Windows applications, middleware, and development tools so that they cannot run on non-Microsoft operating systems.

Please take these comments into consideration - Microsoft has been doing anti-competitive behavior for many years and there is absolutely no reason to believe they will stop on their own. Their corporate culture is obviously to crush the competition with no regard for fair and reasonable business practices.

Rick Siltan

2655 Fanieul Hall Ct
Herndon, VA
20171